

COTTONWOOD HEIGHTS HISTORIC COMMITTEE MEETING
WEDNESDAY, October 9, 2019, 5:30 P.M. CITY HALL
MINUTES

ATTENDANCE:

Members: Don Antczak, Beverly Beckstead, Paul Benner, Allen Erikson, Melinda Hortin, Jim Kichas, Carol Woodside
Staff: Ann Eatchel

WELCOME/INTRODUCTIONS

Jim Kichas, Chair, welcomed the group and asked everyone to provide a brief introduction.

MINUTES APPROVAL

Minutes from the September 11, 2019 meeting were approved by motion and second.

CITY UPDATE

Ann Eatchel advised the group, as of September 17, 2019, Jim Kichas was officially named Chair of the Historic Committee, rather than Chair Pro Tem, as originally reported. Upon review it was discovered the City Ordinance did not include the Pro Tem position, so it is being revised. CH City Foyer Historic Display. As February is National History Month, upon Ann's request, the Art's Council has agreed to let the Historic Committee create the City Foyer display in February. Ann cautioned, the display will have to be "top notch," so as not to disappoint the Arts Council. Jim said we will discuss this further under New Business and come up with a plan so as not to fall short.

SETTING COMMITTEE PRIORITIES FOR 2020

Jim led the discussion regarding administrative cleanup of the following big, bold, 2020 committee activities.

- (1) Improve our presence on the City's website** by improving our members' bios and photographs. He suggested we use the Art Council's example by having HC photos and short (120 words) bios, followed by a statement of why service on the Historic Committee is important.
- (2) Historic Committee have its own Facebook Page.** Again, using the Art Council's example, create a Historic Committee Facebook page, as any type of social media content is important. We already have many years' worth of historical content that could be curated and put online for people to follow.
- (3) Standardize the way we bring in donations to the City Archives.** Soliciting historic donations is important. Perhaps, Beverly and Paul will serve as guinea pigs for designing "welcome to the committee" documentation to help new members become fully engaged in the cause.
- (4) In between meetings, cultivate committee engagement through email and off-line discussions.** This would have been helpful when communicating to the committee about the State History Conference held in late September. We did not get registration information early enough, so missed the opportunity to attend. The ability for the committee to discuss such things early, either on-line or off-line, would enable our meetings to be very focused.
- (5) Maintaining Records—Whose Responsibility?** The question was asked if a written history of activities leading up to establishment of CH City has been maintained, and was this information included in the CH History 1849-1953 book? Jim commented that he has seen some records of planning the creation of the City stored in the Historic closet. He went on to say, the actual government records for CH City are maintained by the City Recorder, are subject to statute, and

the law dictates what is to be saved and what will become of it. **As the City was not formed until 2005, the information about its formation should be a focus in the second book.**

Carol reminded the group, that late 2018 and 2019 brought many changes in personnel and structure, not only to the CH Historic Committee, but also to CH City Government. Some committee time in 2019 has been spent *getting organized and up to speed* with these changes. The 2020 priorities, outlined above, bring to us an excellent opportunity for ongoing success to achieve our goals.

CH CITY'S 15TH ANNIVERSARY AND CITY'S ORGANIZATION INFORMATION

Since 2020 is CH City's 15th anniversary, the timing is good for collecting and archiving information about the creation of the City. This would also make a good topic for the HC's Foyer Display. Ann mentioned the organization topic was discussed in the last City Council meeting. She suggested it would be a good idea to get original organization information in writing from those who participated, such as Scott Bracken and Don Antczak, who were both on the organizing committee and went door-to-door collecting signatures. With many of these people still around, we could *plan a new oral history gathering project for the Committee*. Discussion ensued about information we already know. **Don** has information from that time and will look up a photo of the original committee, **Ann** will research the City's videos made at the time including the *Chad Booth Channel 4 video*. **Jim** will research the closet for the production-quality DVD he has seen, and other written information from the time. The group was encouraged to search their records for additional information. We Need City Council's Approval. Jim reminded the group, this information should be collected and organized into a quality, graphic, visual record. *But first*, we need to find out what the City Council wants to see or do before this conversation continues. **Jim will pursue through email and conversations. If it receives approval, we could form a subcommittee to handle the project.**

October Rollout? Ann interjected, since February (Black History Month) is fast approaching, and October (National Archive Month) would give us more time, why not see if we can delay our foyer display until October? We could do the project as the rollout of the City Archives, as well as our contribution to celebrating the City's 15th anniversary. The committee voted unanimously to work on a historical foyer display for October 2020 (National Archives Month). **Ann will check with the Arts Council regarding having our foyer display in October, 2020.**

NEW PRIORITY DISCUSSION

Preparing for Book #2. Paul commented, his passion is sports, and since history didn't stop in 1953, he would like to see the committee do research on the history of various subjects such as business and sports, in different sectors of the city. Some **sports examples** are: BHS is soon going to retire Brian Keel's Football Number, as they did a few years ago with Reno Mahi's Number. Beverly added, wrestler, Dave Chavis held a reunion this summer, to which at least 150 people attended. It was suggested we go back in history and find people who were big sports stars at the time, find out what happened to them, gather those stories and make them available. Some **business examples** to research are Lone Star Taqueria (established in 1994 by a local resident), and Hillside Tire (whose owner has a racing history). Allen mentioned there was one recent *infamous* person from CH who made the news by selling drugs! **Jim summarized we should brainstorm subjects and have targeted campaigns around different subjects. This would focus on people who have made impressions on the community and/or the world.**

LEGACY BUSINESS MASTER PLAN

Jim proposed the committee take the ideas we have discussed and formulate our **own Historic Committee Strategic Master Plan**. Once the Plan is set, we can accomplish items one-at-a-time, until all are complete. We will leave the group discussion open, in email-format, for additions or changes, as they come to mind.

OLD BUSINESS

- A. 3-D Digital Modeling. At the September meeting, Matt Linton, owner of a video production company, gave the committee a presentation on the concept of using drone technology to photograph historical places, create digital models and make it possible to take virtual tours. The committee felt his concept could get people excited about history and we decided to engage him. The project he brought to our attention is work he has already done on the Old Mill in CH, so, this was the group's choice as a beginning project. Matt confirmed there are two types of agreement he can prepare: (1) Standard Usage Agreement (\$1,000), meaning the project could be repurposed for other people. (2) Exclusive Usage Agreement (\$1,500), which he recommended, as there can be slight modifications to the film to customize to our particular use. Need Old Mill Owner's Permission. Jim, Ann and Matt all agreed, before this project goes forward, we need to get permission from the Old Mill's owner(s) to use it as a model project. Don confirmed the Walker Family Estate owns the Old Mill, and Douglas Shelby, who lives in Holladay, is the administrator of the Walker Estate. Tali, may have contact information for Doug Shelby. The next step is to contact the Old Mill owners for permission. **Jim will collect additional information on this project, and it will remain on our list until it is resolved.**
- B. City Archives Update. Jim introduced this project to the committee when he first joined. However, recently, some *big and complicated questions have come up* regarding Copyright, the Donor Agreement we are using, and CH City's responsibility if photos put online are used without specific permission on the original Deed of Gift. These issues need to be resolved before this project can be fully implemented. Two ways in which we can proceed. (1) Do work as a committee and invent processes, or (2) Bring in the State Archives to help, as It is within their mandate to do so. It was suggested, Jim could invite the local government archivists to come (as a free service) to our November or January meeting. They could advise the group on how to get our archives up to a professional level. The committee agreed #2 is the way to proceed. **Jim will invite his colleagues to address our committee, at either the November or January meeting.**
- C. Committee Member Search. The Historic Committee can have eleven members. With our two new members, Beverly and Paul, and Gayle who is on LOA, we now have a total of eight, so three more members need to be recruited. We have the State's requirement of professions covered with the membership of Allen (architecture), Jim (archivist), and Melinda (history). It was discussed we continue to recruit new members by getting repurposed recruitment language published on our website page, in the CH Newsletter, and City Journal. Each committee member should also continue to invite interested persons. **Ann will check on word requirement and Jim will write something up and get it to Ann by 10/15/19.** Possible Candidate. Allen told us about Elliot Christensen, who is soon to be released from a clergy position. Elliot's background is water resources and he has been involved in the real estate industry all over the country. He has also been the Water Master for Salt Lake County and has a

history of water systems. Allen has talked to him about the HC and he has shown an interest, but not until he is released from his Church assignment.

- D. Wrap for utility boxes. The idea to wrap certain Utah Power utility boxes with historical photographs (rather than original artwork) was proposed a couple of months ago and the City Council agreed to a one-or-two-box trial. In their travels, committee members have been asked to identify potential UP boxes and let Ann know their location. In order to make an informed decision, the committee is now requesting a report on the successes/failures of the program from a community in which it has been underway. **Ann lives in South Jordan, where this program has been underway for some time. She will report back regarding South Jordan's experience.**
- E. Time lapse photography of Brighton High School. Ann and Tali were asked to follow up on the question of time lapse photography on the construction of BHS. Ann reported CH City had investigated contracting to film the construction of the new City Building, but it was prohibitively expensive. So, Dan Metcalf, Public Relations Specialist at the time, filmed the project himself. It was speculated perhaps today this is a by-product of new building construction. The decision was made to carry this item forward until more information can be obtained.

NEW BUSINESS

Jim mentioned a couple of items requiring committee work in the next few months. These projects may require gathering and sharing information by communication in between meetings.

- (A) Update Our Certified Local Government (CLG) Status Information. The CH Historic Committee was designated CLG status in 2012. Since 2018, we have had several changes to our committee's structure. This information, as to *who we now are and what we are about*, needs to be sent to the Utah State History Office, to keep our CLG status up to date. Keeping our information current is important, because, among other things, it enables us to apply for and receive state funding for various committee projects. Two past projects funded were (1) In 2015, a Selective Reconnaissance Level Survey of pre-1953 structures, and (2) In 2017, the Intensive Level Survey on 26 buildings within City boundaries.
- (B) Website Update. The question was asked about website *photos and bios* submitted in the past for inclusion on the website. Jim commented since there have been many changes, we will start again to collect and post them. The timing is good, since CH City has added a *new server, with new web design, and Ann is being trained in its operation.* **Changes to the website should be communicated to Ann so she can enter the information.**
- (C) Committee Rosters. Carol handed out updated Committee Rosters and asked that members look over their information. The new roster will include information about membership term limits and beginning/ending service dates. As this information is in City records, Ann is working this through. **Any changes to the Roster should be sent to Carol and Ann.**

ADJOURN: There being no further business, by motion, the meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: **Wednesday, November 13, 2019, 5:30 p.m.**